

UNHCR Representation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

SELECTION OF PARTNERS FOR THE YEAR 2018

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - CEoI/UNHCR/BIH/No.3	
Project title and Identification:	Project Location:
Advocacy for solutions through provision of legal expertise, supported through free legal aid to UNHCR's persons of concern in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Throughout BiH
Brief Background of the Project:	
<p>UNHCR's persons of concern face obstacles in accessing free legal aid from the existing government-funded providers of free legal aid services due to the incomplete legal framework and the limited capacities of these offices, where they exist. UNHCR will, through the selected Partner, provide free legal aid and will continue advocating for the improvement in the legal framework of free legal aid laws and their implementation and accessibility in practice. For example, the 2016 State-level law on Free Legal Aid envisions the provision of free legal aid to asylum-seekers in BiH. However, the State level Office of Free Legal Aid still needs to be created.</p> <p>The selected partner will need to represent asylum-seekers in their asylum claims, advocate on behalf of refugees, and provide legal assistance to IDPs returnees and persons at risk of statelessness in BiH. The Partner should be ready to provide expert support related to laws and policy in BiH relevant both for refugees and asylum-seekers, as well as to the local integration processes of the refugee group (especially to the process of naturalization).</p> <p>Twenty-two years after signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement (DPA), 98,574 IDPs¹ and some 50,000 minority returnees² in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) are still in need of solutions. Information from UNHCR field visits confirm that a considerable number of IDPs and returnees still continue to live in undignified conditions and require support to achieve durable solutions. Many of the IDPs and returnees are persons with heightened vulnerabilities, physically and mentally challenged, chronically ill, elderly people without family support of income and others who cannot return and exercise their rights due to acute protection reasons. UNHCR puts special emphasis on the provision of protection and legal assistance to the aforementioned beneficiary group, acknowledging that a number of issues remain unresolved for a large number of returnees and IDPs (and especially the ones still residing in collective centres or alternative accommodation).</p> <p>The selected partner will need to provide free legal aid to IDPs and returnees in 2018, and support free legal aid providers at the entity/Cantonal level where they exist. Engagement of the selected partner will continue to play an important role in informing UNHCR's understanding of legal problems related to IDPs and returnees and thereby help to inform UNHCR's advocacy interventions.</p> <p>UNHCR, jointly with its partners and Roma representatives, has worked intensively on both the prevention and reduction of statelessness and risk of statelessness since 2008. As the number of individuals at risk is now relatively low, the next step is to put a sustainable mechanism in place to ensure identification, prevention and reduction of the risk of statelessness through the relevant BiH structures, and without international support. More responsibility should be taken by the local level authorities in identification, prevention and reduction of the risk of statelessness. UNHCR and the selected partner will assist the relevant authorities to take over this</p>	

¹ Source: Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees, situation as at 30 June 2017

² UNHCR's estimate based on field observations and desk reviews

process, while offering free legal aid, expertise, assistance, training and support.

Goal (G) /Objective (O), Expected Outcome (OC) and Main Activities (A):

G1: Advocacy for Protection and Solutions

O1: Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	OC1: IDPs, returnees and refugees receive efficient and free legal aid, helping them to remove the legal obstacles that prevent them from reaching durable solutions	A1: Free legal aid provided to at least 3,400 IDPs, returnees and refugees; at least 2 advocacy interventions made on behalf of these persons of concern to UNHCR; advocacy conducted for at least 10 thoroughly analyzed cases.
O2: Law and policy developed or strengthened	OC2: Laws of BiH better address rights and needs of IDPs, returnees and refugees	A2: Assisting UNHCR in making advocacy interventions; providing expert opinions, analyses and commentary on legal acts, organizing at least two round tables and one seminar.
O3: Potential for integration realized	OC3: Refugees in BiH are enabled to naturalize	A3: Developing and strengthen mechanisms for effective local integration of IDPs and refugees; at least 80 PoCs assisted in naturalization process with provision of free legal aid and coverage of fees.

Intended Population of Concern:

Refugees and other persons of concern from Former Yugoslavia in South-Eastern Europe countries (sub-group: internally displaced persons, returnees and refugees in Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Goal (G) /Objective (O), Expected Outcome (OC) and Main Activities (A):

G1: Protection and Mixed Solutions

O1: Access to legal assistance and legal remedies improved	OC1: Refugees and asylum-seekers receive efficient and free legal aid, helping them to remove the legal obstacles that prevent them from reaching durable solutions	A1: Free legal aid provided to refugees and asylum-seekers; information on Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures provided to at least 150 applicants, 20 advocacy interventions made as well as 20 appeal interventions.
AO2: Law and policy developed or strengthened	OC2: Laws of BiH better address rights and needs of asylum-seekers and refugees	A2: Assisting UNHCR in making advocacy/capacity building interventions; providing expert opinions, analyses and commentary on legal acts, organizing at least two round tables and one seminar.

O3: Security from Violence and Exploitation	OC3: Risks related to detention reduced and freedom of movement increased	A3: Monitoring detention practices including recording cases by age and sex (approximately 20 detainees monitored and 20 monitoring visits made); promoting alternatives to detention (up to 20 interventions made); preventing detention of children through free legal aid and interventions in individual cases (up to five interventions); proactive work in network with human rights bodies.
Intended Population of Concern:		
Asylum-seekers and refugees in South Eastern Europe (sub-group: refugees and asylum-seekers in Bosnia and Herzegovina)		
Goal (G) /Objective (O), Expected Outcome (OC) and Main Activities (A):		
G1: Protection and Mixed Solutions		
O1: Greater reduction of statelessness is achieved	OC1: Risks of being stateless in BiH are significantly reduced through combination of preventive measures and direct interventions	A1: Addressing the gaps in law and practice, that remained in spite of change of legislation and capacity building of local authorities from previous years; advocating for changes to address systemic problems in law and practice and support capacity building of free legal aid and responsible civil registry authorities (through organizing at least 20 events); raising awareness in 286 Roma communities (information provided at least to 4,000 persons).
O2: Civil registration and civil status documentation strengthened	OC2: Persons at risk of statelessness have facilitated access to necessary personal documentation confirming their citizenship	A2: Advocating for legislative changes and simplification of complex and costly administrative procedures to assist persons ta risk of statelessness in obtaining personal documentation and accessing citizenship rights (100 persons will be referred to free legal aid offices for assistance to confirm citizenship).
O3: Identification of statelessness improved	OC3: Authorities in BiH are well trained to identify and assist persons at risk of statelessness and to eradicate this phenomenon in cases when it is caused by the inadequate administrative processes	A3: Monitoring the progress of reducing the risk of statelessness in BiH; advocating for full involvement of the authorities in identifying persons at risk of statelessness (80 focus group meetings will be conducted)

O4: Law and policy developed or strengthened	OC4: Laws of BiH better address rights and needs of persons at risk of statelessness	A4: Although laws pertaining to free legal aid are in place at the State level, Republika Srpska, and in nine Cantons in FBiH, UNHCR and the selected partner will jointly advocate for better policy and sustainable system for the identification, prevention, and reduction of the statelessness
Intended Population of Concern:		
Persons at risk of statelessness in South-Eastern Europe countries (sub-group: persons at risk of statelessness in Bosnia and Herzegovina)		
Project Period [estimated start and end dates of project]:		
1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018		
Submission Deadline: Tuesday, 24 October 2017, 17:00 hrs CET	Date Decision Results to be Communicated to Applicants: within three weeks upon submission deadline	
Selection Criteria		
Criteria Description		Assigned Weighting
Sector expertise and experience: the required specific skills, sector specialists, knowledge and human resources.		30
Project management: ability to deliver project objectives, accountability mechanisms and sound financial management, taking into account the audit results of the previous UNHCR-funded projects, past performance and the external audit of partners' financial statements, where applicable.		20
Local experience and presence: ongoing programme in the area of operation; local knowledge; engaging refugees and other persons of concern; trust from local communities; local presence; partner policy on community relations; complaint mechanisms for persons of concern; self-organized groups of persons of concern; and other factors that would facilitate access to and better understanding of the persons of concern and that would reduce administrative difficulties.		15

<p>Contribution of resources: evidenced and documented contribution of resources to the Project in cash or in-kind (e.g. human resources, supplies and/or equipment) by the partner that are presently available (or potentially mobilized by the partner) in order to supplement UNHCR resources.</p>	5																		
<p>Cost effectiveness: level of direct costs and administrative costs imposed on the Project in relation to project deliverables.</p>	10																		
<p>Partner’s capacity to undertake procurement: ability to undertake large scale procurement, prior procurement experiences and value of procurement. Functioning procurement unit in the country of operation. Established effective internal-controls and PQP status (when procurement is USD 100,000 and above).</p>	10																		
<p>Experience working with UNHCR: global and/or local partnerships including knowledge of UNHCR policies, practices and programmes, including an understanding of and ability to work within UNHCR’s funding limitations and associated inherent risks. Partners that have three consecutive qualified audit opinions for UNHCR-funded projects may not be considered.</p>	10																		
<p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When describing Partner’s capacity to undertake procurement in Concept Note, the applying Agency should bear in mind that all procurement under the Agreement with UNHCR needs to be in accordance with UNHCR Policy “Procurement by Partners with UNHCR funds” (available on UNHCR Partner Portal). For procurement exceeding USD 100,000, all UNHCR Partners should have a valid Pre-qualified for Procurement (PQP) status, which represent an asset in case of this Call; in case an Agency which does not have the PQP status responds to this Call and gets selected, by signing the Agreement with UNHCR it will commit to adjust its procurement procedures in line with UNHCR’s standards and apply for this status within six months after signing of the Agreement. - When describing its Cost Effectiveness in the Concept Note, applying Agency should provide the following overview of expected administrative costs, expressed as percentage of direct costs: 																			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">(A)</th> <th style="text-align: center;">(B)</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Direct project costs (D)</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Maximum administrative costs as % of direct project costs (A)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">D <= BAM 50,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BAM 50,000 < D <= BAM 100,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BAM 100,000 < D <= BAM 200,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BAM 200,000 < D <= BAM 300,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BAM 300,000 < D <= BAM 400,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">BAM 400,000 < D <= BAM 500,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">> BAM 500,000</td> <td style="text-align: center;">A/D*100 = x %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		(A)	(B)	Direct project costs (D)	Maximum administrative costs as % of direct project costs (A)	D <= BAM 50,000	A/D*100 = x %	BAM 50,000 < D <= BAM 100,000	A/D*100 = x %	BAM 100,000 < D <= BAM 200,000	A/D*100 = x %	BAM 200,000 < D <= BAM 300,000	A/D*100 = x %	BAM 300,000 < D <= BAM 400,000	A/D*100 = x %	BAM 400,000 < D <= BAM 500,000	A/D*100 = x %	> BAM 500,000	A/D*100 = x %
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Other information:

The Agencies responding to this Call need to demonstrate their capability to implement all listed activities **as a single package**. Partial applications for individual activities will not be considered. However, since UNHCR BiH budget for 2018 will be confirmed only in November 2017, UNHCR retains the right to cancel some of the planned activities or to reduce the scope of the retained activities at that time. Selected Partner needs to be ready to develop the detailed budget in two weeks upon receiving the notification form UNHCR.

Issuing UNHCR Office

UNHCR Representation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Date

28 September 2017